In the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 15, line 4, with:

--The API representation illustrated by Fig. 2C also allows hierarchies having submerged hierarchies such as the one illustrated by Fig. 1B to be represented without revealing any non-public or proprietary information about the hierarchy. Thus, the list of superclasses for C2 (8) is (C1, Object), the list of superclasses for C1 (14) is (Object) and the list of superclasses for Object (5) is the empty set. A client of this API definition can use this information to reconstruct the hierarchy of Fig. 1B, without revealing any information about the non-public class PrivateClass (10).--

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 16, line 2, with:

--Turning now to Fig. 6B, a representation of a hierarchy that references another hierarchy is presented. Classes Object (200) and C2 (205) are as represented in Fig. 6A.--

In the Claims

Please amend claims 3, 9, 10, 11, 13, and 14 as shown in the PENDING CLAIMS section that begins with page 3 of this paper. Please add new claims 15-21 as shown in the PENDING CLAIMS section. Claims 1, 2, 4-8, and 12 remain unchanged, which are also presented in the PENDING CLAIMS section so as to constitute the entire set of the pending claims under consideration. A marked-up version for the claims being changed by this amendment is attached herewith as separate sheets titled "Marked-up Version of Claims Showing Changes Made."